

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

Spouses are responsible for each other. Needy spouses living together are expected to share income, assets, and expenses.

DEPARTMENT POLICY

SDA

SDA is a cash program for individuals who are not eligible for FIP and are disabled or the caretaker of a disabled person. An SDA eligibility determination group (EDG) consists of either a single adult or adult and spouses living together. See BEM 261 for disability criteria.

DEFINITIONS

Adult

An individual is considered an **adult** for SDA when he or she is age 18 or older or has been emancipated.

Emancipated

An individual under the age of 18 is **emancipated** if any of the following:

- Ever validly married.
- Emancipated by court order.
- On active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

An emancipated individual is considered an **adult**.

Eligibility Determination Group

The **eligibility determination group (EDG)** means those adults living together whose information is needed to determine SDA Eligibility. Only an adult individual and his or her spouse who live together are included in an SDA EDG.

Certified Group

The **certified group (CG)** means those persons in the EDG who meet all non-financial SDA eligibility factors. Countable income and assets of CG members are always considered in determining SDA eligibility.

Living Together

Living together means sharing a home except for temporary absences.

Temporary Absence

A temporarily absent person is considered to be living in the home when **all** of the following are true:

- His location is known.
- He plans to return.
- He lived with the group before the absence.
- The absence has lasted or is expected to last 30 days or less.

Exception: A person is considered living in the home, even after 30 days, when absence is due to hospitalization, education or training.

DETERMINING THE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION GROUP

SDA

The EDG consists of both:

- The individual.

The individual's spouse who lives with the individual and does not receive FIP, Refugee Cash Assistance, or a refugee matching grant.

Bridges determines the members of the SDA EDG based on information reported by the individual and entered in the system.

**DETERMINING THE
CERTIFIED GROUP**

The CG includes only the eligible members of the SDA EDG. A spouse in the home may fail eligibility and be excluded from the CG but remains a mandatory EDG member. A spouse who fails to meet a nonfinancial eligibility factor or is disqualified for any reason is excluded from the CG.

Bridges determines the members of the SDA CG based on information reported by the individual and entered in the system.

LEGAL BASE**SDA**

Annual Appropriations Act
Michigan Administrative Code R 400.3151 - 400.3180